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§ 130. Foliation.—The distinction between deciduous and evergreen shrubs or trees is founded on the observation that the former drop their leaves on the approach of winter or of the dry season, and that the latter keep them till the return of spring or its equivalent the rainy season. Some plants, however, which are deciduous towards the north, are evergreen further south; while again others, either owing to local shelter or to later determination of the articulation, bear their leaves in whole or in part far into the winter. This is a very general statement of an interesting subject which may be found more fully discussed in text-books, Gray's "Structural and Systematic Botany" for example. But here, as in every other department of science, there is abundant need and opportunity for the systematic accumulation of facts and observations. Not only in the retention or discharge of their leaves, but also in the season of their display do trees differ, and in other points which we purpose presenting on some other occasion. The different habits of species in this respect seem to be less fixed than other characteristics, though durable enough when compared with the life of man, and perhaps the subject of their variation and their more recent geological history may be advantageously approached in this direction. It is noticeable, for example, that the *Cladrastis*, the *Paulownia*, the *Catalpa*, the *Ailanthus*, the *Broussonetia*, and other exotic trees which are cultivated about New York for shade or ornament, are later in putting on their foliage than the great body of the natives; while, on the other hand, the English Elm, the Weeping Willow, the Chinese *Wistaria*, and many other foreigners, hold their leaves later than the aborigines.

For the purpose of gathering facts on this subject, we intend publishing monthly a Calendar of Leaves, and invite all who are interested in any part of the country to contribute. It is requisite that each contribution should give the name of the observer, the locality, the condition of two or three other trees or shrubs in the immediate vicinity, the date of the observation, and such other notes as may seem of value. Our November calendar is given merely as a specimen:—

§ 131. LEAF CALENDAR.

- Nov. 26. *Rosa lucida*, Ehr.?—Many discolored leaves. A low bush
Rubus villosus, Ait.—Some red leaves on low bushes.
Vaccinium, spec.—Red leaves on low young bushes.
 The above were noticed in a wood on Bergen Point,
 N. J., between New York and Newark bays.—
 W. H. L.
- Prunus Persica*, the Peach, was noticed in leaf by Mr.
 Le Roy, in Westchester Co.
- " 29. *Salix Babylonica*, Tourn., the Weeping Willow, alone
 still retains some foliage in the parks and grounds
 about the city.
- Wistaria Sinensis*, Chinese *Wistaria*, still keeps many
 leaves where sheltered by walls from the north and
 west. *Cratægus Oxyacantha*, L., close by one speci-
 men, with equal shelter, was quite bare.—W. H. L.